

The American public has been held hostage by the poor service and inordinate fares at the hands of the cartels in the air for too long. That is why I am pleased to introduce this bill to generate legitimate competition and secure reasonable prices for air travel for the country's consumers.

**BILL TWEET—SAN DIEGO COUNTY
BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION
TRADES COUNCIL 1998 LABOR
LEADER OF THE YEAR**

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 1998

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, and colleagues, I rise today to recognize Bill Tweet, the Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer of Iron Workers Local 229, as he is honored by the San Diego County Building & Construction Trades Council at the September 19, 1998 John S. Lyons Memorial Banquet as the 1998 Labor Leader of the Year.

Bill is a native San Diegan and was educated in local schools. Following his education at San Diego City College, he served in the United States Army and was stationed in Germany.

He began his career as an Ironworker in November 1967 and graduated from the Iron Workers Apprenticeship Program in 1971. During his tenure, Bill has worked on many of the San Diego County highway bridges on Interstates 5, 8, 805 and S.R. 163 and has contributed his talent to the erection of major high rise projects in downtown San Diego.

Bill first became active in Ironworkers Local 229 when he was elected Vice President of the Local in 1982, a position he held until begin elected to the Executive Board and the District Council of Iron Workers. He served in that position for two terms before his election to the office of Business Representative.

In 1994, Bill was elected to his current position of Business Manager/Financial Secretary Treasurer of Ironworkers Local 229 and was re-elected in 1997. In addition to his duties at Local 229, Bill also serves as Delegate to the District Council, Trustee of the District Council, State of California and vicinity, and Trustee of the California Field Ironworkers Trust Funds.

Organized labor at large in San Diego has benefited from Bill's tenure as Delegate of the Imperial County Building and Construction Trades Council, as a Member of the Executive Board of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council and currently as President of the San Diego County Building and Construction Trades Council.

The local community has also benefited from Bill's endless efforts. He dedicates his energies to the youth in his community by serving as a "T-ball" coach and serves on the Clairemont Town Council. He has donated his time and trade skills to the community by organizing members of local 229 to join him in volunteering their skills to erect new score boards at the University of San Diego and Mission Bay High School, constructing a new building for the Boys and Girls Clubs of National City and by building the walkway at the San Diego Children's Museum.

Bill Tweet exemplifies the high values, standards and principles of a real community

leader. It is very appropriate that his many efforts on behalf of his local community and of working men and women throughout San Diego County are recognized by this award.

My congratulations go to Bill Tweet for these significant contributions. I admire his dedication and commitment and believe him to be highly deserving of the San Diego County Building and Construction Trades Council's 1998 Labor Leader of the New Year Award.

IN HONOR OF BERNIE FIELDS

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 1998

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bernie Fields, a constituent of mine who passed away on August 16, 1998 at his home in Middletown, Connecticut. He will be deeply missed by all of us who knew him.

Bernie distinguished himself as a businessman, a community activist, a husband and a father. He came to Connecticut in 1950 and opened Bernie Fields Jewelers. This family-owned business stayed in downtown Middletown for almost five decades. When many businesses moved out to mega-malls and the suburbs, Bernie remained committed to downtown. His store is like an anchor in downtown Middletown, a familiar site to generations of residents.

Mr. Speaker, Bernie Fields did much, much more than keep his business in downtown. He worked on behalf of his community in countless other ways.

Bernie founded Connecticut's very first Big Brothers/Big Sisters chapter in Middletown in 1961. He went on to help establish eight other chapters around the state.

He served as Director of the local American Red Cross Chapter, the American Cancer Society, the Lions Club and the Big Brothers of Hartford. He was a trustee of the Mount Saint John School. For twenty years he rented out a theater every December and showed free movies for young people.

He won the Connecticut Sports Writers Alliance Good Guy Award, was named the Salvation Army's Man of the Year, and received the American Legion Americanism Award, the Boy Scouts' Good Scout Award, and the Masons' PierPoint Medal. He was also the recipient of this institution's Congressional Volunteer of the Year Award.

Bernie Fields is survived by his wife of 58 years, Helen, his son Martin, his daughter Harriet, eight grandchildren, and one great grandchild. Although all of us who were lucky enough to call Bernie a friend will miss him, we will always remember how much he did to make Connecticut a great place to live.

**A TRIBUTE TO THE PENNYSaver
NEWS OF BROOKHAVEN ON ITS
40TH ANNIVERSARY**

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 1998

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the People's House to ask my colleagues to

join me in honoring the Pennysaver News of Brookhaven and Island Shopper, as publisher Gary Smith and his staff of dedicated employees celebrate this nationally acclaimed publication's 40th anniversary.

Over the past four decades, the Pennysaver News has grown from its humble origins to become the dominant shopper in Suffolk County, Long Island. The growth of the Pennysaver News and Island Shopper is typical of so many American success stories, inspired by elements of talent, work ethic and the good fortune to come of age in the dynamic Long Island business market. Founded by Gary Smith's brother Robert as an 8,000-circulation paper in Bay Shore, the Pennysaver News now has 32 editions with a circulation of 270,000, employing 75 talented staff members in printing, mailing, graphic arts and sales.

In the fiercely competitive Long Island market, the Pennysaver News and Island Shopper are highly regarded industry leaders of National renown. This year alone, the Pennysaver and Island Shopper received three national awards for advertising excellence from the Association of Free Community Papers, while also garnering the First Place award for excellence from the FCPNY.

While the publication has grown in size, readership and stature, Pennysaver News remains family owned and operated, with Robert's son Tim and Gary's daughter Delee now part of the team. This strong sense of family inspires an equally strong devotion to support so many schools, Boy Scout troops, churches, and chambers of commerce throughout the 65 hamlets in the six Suffolk County Townships the Pennysaver and Island Shopper serve.

The success of our national economy depends less upon government programs or multinational companies than upon the hard work and entrepreneurial spirit of small business owners like Gary Smith and his late brother Robert. The Smith's success is predicated on an unwavering commitment to customer service, producing results that increase their advertisers' sales and providing their readers with a valuable resource on local businesses.

So Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in honoring the Pennysaver News and Island Shopper and the entire Smith family for 40 wonderful years of service to the Long Island businesses community and all their readers.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 1998

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for rollcall votes 435, 436, and 437 on September 15, I would have voted "yea." I applaud the leadership for bringing these important bills to the floor for a vote.

HONORING NANCY J. SCHILLING

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 1998

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring

Nancy J. Schilling, a dedicated civil servant in Evansville, Illinois, in my Congressional district.

Nancy serves as the City Clerk for the Village of Evansville and as the Randolph County Civil Defense Director. While her husband, Danny and two children, Roxie and Ryan have always known what a great wife and mother they have, Evansville has been equally blessed in benefiting from Nancy's dedication to her community.

During the flood of 1993, the citizens of Evansville realized just how fortunate they were to have Nancy Schilling as their City Clerk. At a time when Evansville was under great strain facing the damage from the flood, she became the organizing force in re-building the community. Nancy coordinated efforts with the National Guard, Army Guard and Coast Guard to assist in a rapid response flood relief plan. She was also instrumental in securing state and federal grant money to provide critical additional support for Southern Illinois.

What is most notable about Nancy Schilling is her willingness to meet any challenge presented to her with a friendly smile and determined spirit. Nancy Schilling recently recognized her as their Citizen of the Year. I commend Nancy for this well deserved tribute, honoring her integrity, compassion and outstanding commitment to Evansville.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Nancy Schilling for the fine example she has set for us all.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE FLUENCY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 10, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3829) to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to establish a program to help children and youth learn English and for other purposes:

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Chairman, there are very few people in this body who can claim to be not only a parent of children in bilingual education, but who worked in bilingual education. I am proud to be associated with bilingual education and its implementation on a nationwide basis.

There are legitimate arguments about the implementation of bilingual education and whether it fits some communities. The existing Bilingual Education Act allows for this. It does not force bilingual education on anyone, and if some communities do not want it, they do not have to have it.

There is a legitimate discussion about the length of time in bilingual instruction, and there is legitimate debate about the age factors involved in language learning.

These are important considerations and they should be discussed between parents and educators within the communities throughout the country, in the best tradition of local control and responsiveness.

These are the arguments that are not legitimate. An impression will be given (clearly unsubstantiated and based on anecdotes recir-

culated to mythical proportions) that bilingual education is not about acquiring English. It is, and those of us who support bilingual education support and acknowledge the fundamental truth that life in America without English is a life without economic options and access to the full benefits of American public life.

It is bilingual education that will provide this access to our children and young adults, and the termination of this program in our Nation's educational system will certainly be detrimental to limited English proficient (LEP) students.

On the other hand, this bill we have before us today will take us several steps backward in educating LEP students. The so-called English Language Fluency Act contains provisions unacceptable to me as a Member of Congress, as a former educator, and as a parent.

H.R. 3892 disregards the authority of parents and local schools. This legislation mandates that LEP students entering kindergarten must master English by the end of the first grade. In addition, LEP children must be moved out of specialized classrooms in 2 years, not exceeding 3 years. Because you see, if LEP students need further assistance in learning the English language, and even if school administrators and parents believe further Federal assistance is necessary, after 3 years, this bill will not give these students the educational resources they will require. Common sense would have us believe that children in different age groups will have different educational needs. H.R. 3892 says no. It requires the 3-year limit on specialized learning and will effectively slam the education doors on LEP students needing further assistance.

H.R. 3892 is a violation of the voluntary compliance agreements between the Office of Civil Rights, local schools, and parents if these agreements involve bilingual education. Parties to these agreements will not even be consulted nor will individual consent degrees be examined. These compliance agreements ensure access to quality education for LEP students and protects their civil rights under title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Equal Educational Opportunity Act of 1974.

Voiding these arrangements is another affront to the authority of local schools and robs students of the opportunity to excel in other school subjects. H.R. 3892, with its main focus on English learning, ignores the priorities just as vital to the development of LEP students, such as the basic comprehension of other school subjects like math and science.

Even the funding plans under H.R. 3892 are problematic. Instead of providing funds for the most efficient programs, H.R. 3892 will utilize formula grants for each school district. This legislation means not providing funds to the neediest students, or rewarding the best efforts.

We will soon be considering the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Assessment of the Bilingual Education Program should take place within this context of comprehensive school reform. To initiate legislation at this time, which is what H.R. 3892 would do, is simply rash and foolhardy. We owe it to our children and youth to carefully evaluate and analyze the effects of bilingual education.

My colleagues, I urge you to oppose the passage of H.R. 3892. It is a shortsighted proposal which will serve more to harm LEP stu-

dents rather than aid them. Although the intentions of this legislation are notable, the language in this bill will simply not serve its purpose for it disregards the other educational priorities of LEP students, for their parents and for their teachers.

Vote "no" on H.R. 3892.

SALUTE TO DANIEL F. HALL UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 1998

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Speaker, the men and women who serve this nation as the employees of the federal government are sometimes the forgotten foot soldiers that keep our federal programs running day in and day out. Today, I want to pay tribute to one of these committed public servants, whose upcoming retirement will leave the Nashville District of the Army Corps of Engineers with tremendously large shoes to fill. Daniel Hall has been the Nashville District's Chief of Construction-Operations Division since 1992, but in October he will retire after 37 years of dedicated service to this nation.

He began his career after he graduated cum laude from Vanderbilt University in 1961 with the Bachelor of Engineering degree in Civil Engineering. As a distinguished graduate of Vanderbilt's Army ROTC program, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. His first assignment was as Platoon Leader and Company Executive Officer for the 299th Engineer Battalion in Hoecht, Germany.

After active duty, Mr. Hall joined the Vicksburg District Corps of Engineers as a civil engineer intern and was later assigned to the Operations Division. In 1965, he transferred to the Nashville District, where he has been a tireless and ardent engineer. He was handed the honor and responsibility of Chief of Construction-Operations Division in 1992.

Over the years, Mr. Hall has been recognized several times for his outstanding work and service. He received the Meritorious Civilian Service Award. He was twice selected as the Nashville District's Employee of the Year in the Engineer and Scientist Category. He was named Engineer of the Year by the Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers. He was decorated by the Secretary of the Army, who awarded him the Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service for his exceptional leadership and technical abilities.

Over the years, Mr. Hall has made an enormous impact in many of the communities in Kentucky's 5th Congressional District that are regularly flooded during times of heavy rains. He has worked on tremendous flood protection projects in Harlan, Pineville, Barbourville, Middlesboro and Williamsburg, which will help save people's lives, homes and property, and promote economic development in one of the poorest regions of the nation.

Today, I want to commend Mr. Hall for his outstanding and effective leadership. His work with the Army Corps of Engineers has made a difference in the lives of so many people, who routinely face the mud and floods of Mother Nature's fury. I wish Mr. Hall all the